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## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

23 September 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military Situation

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Summary

The build-up of supplies and personnel is continuing in the UN beach-head in the Inchon-Seoul area as stubborn resistance by enemy elements in prepared positions in Yongdongpo slowed the advance on Seoul. In south-eastern Korea, the enemy continued to resist stubbornly in some sectors, but it is clear that some troops are being withdrawn to the north and others are faced with a shortage of supplies. The US 8th Army advanced on all fronts with the most significant gain taking elements on the US 1st Cavalry Division to within 7 miles of Sangju on the principal alternate road to Seoul.

Ground

Seoul Area. There was little change in the front lines in the Inchon-Seoul area as the US 1st Marine Division continued to encounter bitter resistance from enemy units in prepared positions in Yongdongpo. Other Marine units were encountering determined resistance in the northwestern outskirts of Seoul, but US 7th Division patrols operating from Suwon encountered only light and scattered resistance along the road to Seoul 20 miles to the north.

Southeastern Area. Elements of the US 25th Division overcame moderate to heavy resistance and advanced westward to within 7 miles of Chinju. Extensive land mine fields covered by artillery fire are being encountered. Further to the north, the southern flank of the US 2nd Division continued to receive heavy enemy artillery and mortar fire, but the center and north flank of the Division moved further west of the Naktong River, capturing the crossroad towns of Chogye and Sinban-ni and pushing to within 5 miles of the town of Hyopchon. Elements of the US 24th Division and the 27 UK Brigade advanced approximately 5 miles along the main highway from Taegu northwest to within 7 miles of Kumchon. Elements of the 1st Cavalry Division advanced north of Taegu, to within 7 miles of Sangju on the principal alternate highway from southern Korea to Seoul. In the northern sector, ROK troops pushed forward and one spearhead entered Uisong on the main highway leading to Andong and west-central Korea. On the east coast ROK troops are now 10 miles north of Pohang.

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Navy

UN carrier-based aircraft continue to provide close support to UN ground forces in the Seoul-Inchon area and to harass enemy troops attempting to move north to reinforce the Seoul garrison. UN naval units patrolled the east and west coasts of Korea and provided fire support for the ROK troops advancing north of Pohang on the east coast road.

Air

UN aircraft provided close support for UN troops in southeastern Korea and assisted the US 24th Division in destroying 5 tanks west of Waegwan.

II. General Situation

No significant developments have been reported during the past 24 hours.

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